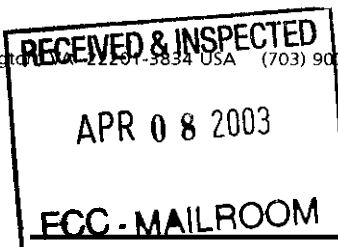


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Consumer Electronics Association 2500 Wilson Blvd. Arlington, VA 22201-5834 USA (703) 907-7600 main (703) 907-7601 fax www.CE.org



ORIGINAL

March 25, 2003

Ms. Marlene H. Dortch
Federal Communications Commission
Office of the Secretary
445 12th St. SW
Washington DC 20554

Re: *Ex Parte Presentation*: In the Matter of Implementation of Section **304** of the Telecommunications Act of 1996: Commercial Availability of Navigation Devices; CS Docket No: 97-80

Dear Ms. Dortch:

On March 24, 2003, the undersigned along with Consumer Electronics Association President and CEO Gary Shapiro spoke via teleconference with FCC Commissioner Kevin Martin and Legal Advisor to Commissioner Martin, Catherine Bohigian.

The purpose of the discussion was to express CEA's support for the current FCC regulations requiring common reliance on the POD-Host Interface for new navigation devices placed in service after January 1, 2005.

We noted that the POD-Host Interface technology has not yet been deployed or tested in the U.S. marketplace. For this reason, it would cause CE manufacturers serious concern if cable operators were to pursue a different technological direction than the one specified for competitive entrant products.

We noted that the December 19 Memorandum of Understanding between the cable and consumer electronics industries did not address nor contemplate a stay or removal of the 2005 date.

Finally, we stated our belief that only a fixed deadline for cable reliance on the POD-Host Interface will provide all cable operators with an incentive to ensure that the POD-Host Interface and POD-equipped products work reliably for consumers.

This letter is being provided to your office in accordance with Section 1.1206 of the Federal Communications Commission rules. A copy of this notice has been delivered to the parties listed below.

Sincerely,

Michael Petricone

No. of Copies rec'd 0
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cc: Catherine Bohigian

